

Town of Florence

Arizona

Founded 1866



COMMUNITY

The spirit of the Old West is alive in Florence, Arizona and the cowboy culture that earned the nickname "Cowboy Cradle of the Great Southwest" is firmly rooted here. Residents and visitors alike are kept busy with Florence's annual event calendar, historic attractions and proximity to popular regional attractions.

Positioned halfway between Phoenix and Tucson Arizona along State Route 79 and 287, Florence is in the center of the Golden Corridor, the growth corridor between two of the fastest growing metro areas in the country. The Town is a rural agricultural community in Pinal County and serves as the county seat. Indian agent Colonel Levi Ruggles staked and platted the Town in 1866. At 1,493 feet in elevation, Florence is situated on a level plain around the Gila River.

Natural landmarks offer interesting punctuation to the great western views – Poston Butte just to the north, and the magnificent Superstition Mountains beyond. Look south to the vibrant colors of the lower Sonoran desert stretching to the Mexican border. Outdoor lifestyles are enhanced by the region's mild desert climate.

GOVERNMENT

Florence, being one of the oldest towns in Arizona, is proud of its history and the designation of the historic downtown as a National Historic District. The town strives to strike a balance between preserving the past and preparing for the future so that an authentic sense of place is maintained and new growth and revitalization are encouraged.

The Town of Florence is a home-rule and a council-manager governed municipality whereby Town Council is the policy-making body and the appointed Town Manager is in charge of the day-to-day operations. The Mayor and a six-person Town Council are elected to four-year terms.

The Town of Florence is a full-service municipality and provides a full array of public services including police, fire, public works, community services (parks, recreation, library and senior center), and community development. The Town also owns, operates, and maintains its own water supply and wastewater treatment plants. The adopted Strategic Plan provides an important roadmap for the Town and staff as development activity in and around the Town limits increases in the coming months and years.

POSITION: POLICE CHIEF

SALARY: \$84,964—\$135,722 (full range)

The Town of Florence is seeking our next Police Chief to replace Chief Dan Hughes who will be retiring at the end of the year after 7 years of service. The Police Chief reports directly to Town Manager Brent Billingsley (who has been in his position for 3-1/2 years) and is an important member of the Town management team, performing highly complex duties in directing and managing the administration, patrol, and communications functions of the police department. This includes staff supervision, budget preparation and administration, community relations, and the other activities typically involved in managing a municipal police department. Current departmental staff includes a Lieutenant, 6 Sergeants (one new position was added in the FY19/20 budget), 23 Officers and 15 civilian support staff members. The department's FY2019/20 operational and capital budgets total \$4.42 million.

A strategic plan for the department has just been completed and is ready for implementation. And the Town of Florence Strategic Plan is currently undergoing an update. There are fortunately no pressing issues facing our new Police Chief upon arrival, but two items that will require attention are staffing challenges in the dispatch center and a project to address communications coordination on the Pinal County Sheriff's Office radio channels.

Education and Experience

A Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice, Public Administration, or related field is required, along with a minimum of 8 years of governmental law enforcement experience, at least 5 of which must have been at the full supervisory or command level; a Master's Degree is preferred. Since we utilize Spillman software, experience with that system would be a plus.

How to Apply

Open until filled; first application review date is September 9, 2019. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply. Visit our website at www.florenceaz.gov for our Employment Application and instructions to apply. Questions regarding this recruitment can be directed to HR Director Scott Barber via e-mail at scott.barber@florenceaz.gov. The Town of Florence is an EEO/ADA employer. Please send employment application, resume and cover letter to:

Town of Florence
Human Resources Department
775 North Main Street
PO Box 2670
Florence, AZ 85132
Phone: (520) 868-7553 | Fax: (520) 868-7571
hr@florenceaz.gov